

Arlington Council on Aging

Meeting Minutes, January 18, 2018

Present: Jim Munsey, Rick Fentin, Ann Fitzgerald, Paul Raia, Mara Klein Collins, and Marge Vanderhill. Associate member, Karen Nichols. Susan Carp, ED.

Associates present: Bob Tosi, Karen Nichols, and Susan Carp, ED

Absent: Jill Greenlee, Noreen Murphy, and Dick Phelps

A. Call to order: The regular meeting of the Council on Aging Board was called to order by Mara Klein Collins at 6:00PM on January 18, 2018, at 27 Maple Street, Arlington, MA.

B. Citizen's open forum: none

C. Minutes of December 14, 2017, approved. Rick moved and Jim seconded after noting that the minutes be changed under old business to read: "reconsider the Enterprise Fund."

D. Report of the Chair: no report

E. Executive Director's Report: December 2017-January 2018

1. Bill Murphy, Volunteer and Transportation Coordinator has given notice to retire effective February 20, 2018. Bill has served the COA for 15 years in this capacity and has touched many lives in his role. We will miss him! We are planning a retirement open house on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 from 10-12 in the drop in room.
2. Urvi Agarwalla is the new COA Nurse. Urvi comes with COA experience from 2 other COA's, Burlington and Concord. We welcomed Urvi on December 18. Student nurses are needed. Susan will put out feelers to area colleges.
3. CDBG grant requests are due by January 31, 2018. Currently we receive funding for Volunteer and Transportation Coordinator, Transportation, and Adult Day Health Services. Grants will be submitted for all 3 listed.
4. First Quarter (Federal) results for SNAP applications process included 25 applications with 2 denials. This partnership with DTA will permit the COA to seek reimbursement for up to 50% of the staff time involved in outreach and application processing.
5. The Town Manager budgets are out for public review. Contingent upon approval at Town Meeting, the COA will be able to increase Social Work hours from 28/hrs. per week to 35. We are grateful for the support of Christine Bongiorno and town management to recognize the impact 7 more hours will provide.
6. The Senior Work off program and Veterans work off program are now accepting applications. Applications and program description will be available on line and at the COA office.
7. AARP tax preparers will be here at the COA once again. Appointments will be February 2 – April 13, 2018. The COA will assist in scheduling appointments for the tax preparers for all ages.

8. Fuel Assistance intake has been active. The COA is an intake site for all ages. Private gifts have made donations possible to many.
9. I have not confirmed the date yet, however it appears that the new van we will receive through the MassDot grant should arrive before May. I will update the board as more information becomes available. Jim added a reminder that the van should include what the riders need.
10. In February I will be submitting a request to the Selectmen for the Arlington for All Ages 5K Race. The date has not yet been determined

F. Old Business:

1. Minuteman Senior Services, Marge reporting. The auditors presented a fiscal report. There are still four vacancies on the Board from area COAs.
2. Driveway: Work will begin this May with the project manager supervising.
3. Building renovation status: Town wants to do another assessment of the facility. \$200k has been allocated. It was mentioned that the Plymouth COA has already outgrown facilities that were built in 2012.
4. Age Friendly: see ED report
5. Board members: Mara, Dick, and Ann are off the board as of June 30. Nominating Committee will present possible candidates in May.

G. Other business: Jim moved and Paul seconded the following requested transfer of funds:

1. SEVOYAN DENTAL Request: \$10,000

The COA is seeking approval of a transfer of funds from the Sevoyan Fund. Since the last request there have been 36 seniors that have received benefit from the fund. The maximum per fiscal year a participant may receive is a \$300 value. Payment is made directly to the dentist or oral surgeon and no payment is made to the individual. This past year we were able to negotiate with Tufts Dental to allow a senior to seek services and to bill the COA. Individuals must meet the income criteria; it is the same for Minuteman Senior Services and cannot exceed \$22,000 for an individual.

2. SEVOYAN PERSONAL NEEDS Request: \$10,000

The COA is seeking approval of a transfer of funds from the Sevoyan Fund to serve Arlington seniors in their Personal Needs. This is not an emergency fund, but a fund that can assist with everyday living. Since the last request there have been 41 seniors served. Payment is made directly to the vender and no payment is made to the individual. Individuals must meet the income criteria; it is the same for Minuteman Senior Services and cannot exceed \$22,000 for an individual. Awards are capped at \$300 per fiscal year

3. Since the COA is the trustee, Ann mentioned the Board should receive monthly reports on the status of the Sevoyan Fund.

H. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm.